

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 03550 290929Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /032 W

-----290931Z 046848 /13

P 290833Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3578

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3550

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB OTRA KS

SUBJ: VISIT OF FKTU PRESIDENT TO U.S.

REF: STATE 94238

1. FKTU PRESIDENT CHUNG TONG-HO AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR CHO IK OK WILL VISIT U.S. IN MID MAY UNDER AAFLI AUSPICES AS NOTED IN REFTEL. AAFLI-WASHINGTON HAS ASSUMED MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR SCHEDULING OF VISITS AND AAFLI/ KOREA DOES NOT HAVE SPECIFICS OF PROGRAM. CHUNG SEES TRIP AS FOCUSED ON FOSTERING TRADE UNION CONTACTS ESPECIALLY WITHIN AFL-CIO, AND PLACES FULL CONFIDENCE IN AAFLI/WASHINGTON TO GUIDE HIM THROUGH WHATEVER PROGRAMS OF CONTACTS THEY FEEL WILL BE MOST HELPFUL TO HIM.

2. CHUNG WILL MOST PROBABLY WANT TO CONVEY TO U.S. CONUNTERPARTS KOREAN LABOR'S CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE LOSS OF U.S. MARKETS TO KOREAN INDUSTRY AND WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. GROUND FORCES. THESE CONCERNS DO EXIST AMONG FKTU RANK-AND-FILE.

3. AS DEPARTMENT WARE, KOREAN LABOR MOVEMENT'S FREEDOM OF ACTION IS HEMMED IN BY RESTRICTIVE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND NATIONAL SECURITY LEGISLATION. CHUNG HAS, SINCE HIS ELECTION IN OCTOBER 1976, PRESSED HARD FOR A  
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BROADENING OF LABOR MOVEMENT RIGHTS. AT SAME TIME, HE HAS TRIED TO HOLD LABOR MOVEMENT TOGETHER AND INDEED HAS LED STRONG OFFENSIVE TO ORGANIZE NEW MEMBERS. HE HAS TRIED TO RECAST FKTU IMAGE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF WORKERS, RATHER THAN CHANNEL OF GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF WORKERS. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME RECENT INDICATIONS THAT ROKG HAS CONSULTED WITH FKTU ON LABOR AND ECONOMIC MATTERS

AFFECTING LABOR ON THIS BASIS.

4. OBVIOUSLY CHUNG'S INPUT WILL NOT RESOLVE DIFFICULT  
TRADE OR SECURITY PROBLEMS, BUT WHATEVER ASSISTANCE  
DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE AAFLI/WASHINGTON TO MAKE CHUNG'S  
VISIT A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE WILL HELP KOREAN LABOR  
MOVEMENT IN ITS STRUGGLE FOR STATUS AS AN INSTITUTION.  
SNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, OTRA, KS, US, (CHUNG TONG-HO), (CHO IK OK)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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